

Serial No.: 09/539,927

Attorney's Docket No.:10559/151001
Intel Corporation: P7976REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending, with claims 1, 9, 14, and 18 being independent. Claims 5-7 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 8, 9, 14, and 18 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

The art of record fails to teach or suggest: "simplifying policy rules to form simplified policy rules, wherein a policy rule comprises one or more conditions and one or more values associated with the one or more conditions, the one or more conditions to be evaluated for network communications based on the one or more values, and said simplifying comprises eliminating at least one of any redundant conditions and values from the policy rule based at least in part on condition-type information of the one or more conditions; based on said simplified policy rules, creating an access control list adapted to configure a network device, including creating at least one array of included conditions and at least one array of excluded conditions from the policy rules; and using the access control list to generate access filters that configure the network device to control network communications in the network device, including generating, after redundancy checks, one or more deny filters by combining the at least one array of excluded

Serial No.: 09/539,927

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conditions and the at least one array of included conditions, and wherein generating the access filters comprises adding one or more filters adapted to control access of a device to a component other than the network device in a network connected to the network device."

Thus, independent claims 1, 9, 14, and 18 are patentable. Moreover, dependent claims 2-4, 8, 10-13, 15-17, and 19-21 are patentable based on the above, and on there own merits.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Serial No.: 09/539,927

Attorney's Docket No.: 10559/151001
Intel Corporation: P7976

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Respectfully submitted,

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